

# MEXICO MISSOURI MESSAGE.

VOL. 16

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NO. 4

## DISTRICT MEET AT LADDONIA

Laddonia, Mo., Nov. 21.—The district convention of the W. C. T. U. met here Friday morning. Hon. E. A. Shannon, County Representative, spoke on the temperance movement and Mrs. J. W. Million of Mexico delivered an address on woman's suffrage.

The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. Oceola Lane, of Mexico; vice-president, Mrs. Susan Quaintance, of Laddonia; treasurer, Mrs. Kate Peterson, of Mexico; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Householder, of Mexico; recording secretary, Mrs. Lizzie Clark, of Vandalia.

At night a gold-medal contest was held. There were six contestants—Misses Nadine Gray, Goldie Keith, Georgia Tanner, Ollie Syler, Gladys Beebe and Lucile Reighley. Mrs. J. W. Million of Mexico, Miss Nellie Farrell of Bowling Green and Rev. Martindale, judges, awarded the medal to Miss Reighley of Farber.

## OAKLAND STOCK FARM

Mrs. May Dyson of Columbia and Miss Pattie Godby of Fayette visited friends and relatives in Mexico recently. Cliff Harris is cutting and hauling his winter wood while the Shoe Factory is shut down. The first quarterly meeting of this circuit was held at Bethel church by Elder Culbertson, the preacher in charge being present. The circuit was well represented by the stewards. Mrs. Mary Criger and Flossie Hamer and little son, Butler, and Mrs. Miller, all of Mexico, and Mrs. Annie Miller, north of Mexico, spent Thursday with F. T. Harris and family. Born, to Frank Powell and wife, the 11th, a fine son. Ed. Selb has been hauling off his wheat. Got \$1.02 per bushel. Mrs. Mary Clapper has returned from Kansas, where she spent several months visiting relatives.

## MRS. EDWARDS DEAD.

Mrs. Richard Edwards, whose home was three miles east of this city, died Wednesday night of last week in the Mexico Hospital where she had been taken a day or two before for treatment. The funeral was held at the Mexico Christian church Friday morning, conducted by Rev. W. H. Shullenberger. The pallbearers were Cal Barnes, C. P. Malone, Frank Sannebeck, Jerry and Edward Dermody and John Rainey.

The husband and three sons and one daughter, Roy, in California, Dick and Cole Edwards and Miss Ruth, survive. Mrs. Edwards was an obliging neighbor and true Christian woman. Many friends mourn her sudden taking away.

## MR. BERTELS DEAD

Stephen Bertels, of Martinsburg, 79 years old, died last Friday. He was president of the Martinsburg Bank and was one of the leading citizens of that community. He was a native of Germany and had lived in Martinsburg since 1880. A wife and five daughters survive him.

## Mexico Savings Bank

Capital Stock, \$150,000.00

43rd Year in Business.

W. W. FRY, President.

SAM LOCKE, Cashier.

## Some Views and Interviews

Kelly Wilkerson: Better times coming, boys. The regional banks are all right, but the farm credits system will beat it beyond compare. Have you been studying it? The Government is working on that law, and when it is a national statute there'll be something doing in this country.

Mrs. J. E. Bozarth: I live southwest of Auxvasse. I was a pupil under the editor of the Message some years ago. It was the Neville school, just over in Ralls county, north of Laddonia. It was in the neighborhood of the Akridges, Moores, Youngs, Stephens and Keetons. My name was Humphrey then. Time has wrought many changes in the old neighborhood since those days.

J. Hord Davis: After my public sale next Wednesday I expect to move to Texas. I have bought land near Trinity, in that State. A new town has been laid off adjoining my land. We will be 80 miles north of Houston. It is a new country and has a fine soil.

J. E. Lofton: I came up from my home near Wellsville to see my brother in Mexico, Dr. J. E. Lofton. Say, Mr. Message, I'm a grandad. It's a girl and was born recently to Mr. and Mrs. H. L. Risk. Mrs. Risk is my daughter. The incident makes me call to mind that I'm growing old.

Clayton Snook: I was breaking ground until recently for next year's planting. But the freeze last week formed a hard crust over the ground and I suspect fall plowing will have to cease for this season.

W. J. Mason: My son, R. H. Mason, the Government engineer, at Clemson College, S. C., writes me that the cotton situation in his locality is quite serious—no market at home or abroad for the crop, as you know. My daughter, Miss Ruth E. Mason, also writes—is enjoying her school work at Berkeley, Calif. I realize that my little family is getting scattered.

## MILLER-MARTIN WEDDING

The engagement of Miss Ida Miller, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. C. S. Miller, of Northwest Mexico, to Mr. Russell Martin has been announced. The wedding will take place at seven o'clock p. m., December 1st, at the home of the bride's parents, Rev. S. W. Hayne of the Methodist church officiating. Miss Miller is one of Mexico's brightest young women. She graduated from McMillan High School three years ago.

Mr. Martin is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Martin southwest of Martinsburg. He is an exemplary young man and progressive farmer. We venture our congratulations to the young couple in advance.

Rev. J. D. Watson of this city closed a revival meeting recently with the Hardin Baptist church, near Kansas City. There were 21 conversions. Bro. Watson is now holding a meeting at Olney, in Lincoln county.

Henry Huffman, 69 years old, a brother of Mrs. Joseph Steinman of this city, died at his home in Osage City, Mo., one day last week. Mrs. Steinman attended the funeral.

Mrs. J. E. Hutton is visiting in St. Louis.

## THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION

It has ever been the custom of the American people to associate in their thinking the harvest season and gratitude to God. From our earliest epochs of history our national successes have been reasons for thanksgiving, and the vigor of our national life and the beneficence of God have been interwoven and intertwined. From the first our Presidents have set aside annually a day for Thanksgiving, and this in all recent times has been followed by the worthy example of the Governors of the States. And, moreover, such is the democracy and common welfare of this land that whatever is for the best of all is for the welfare of any, and the smallest city or town is made to rejoice in the things that pertain to our whole land. And so—

Because the people of the city of Mexico, Mo., have been blessed with strength and health and have passed thru the year in safety from serious epidemics and plagues and have, by testimony of those qualified to know, been beyond the ordinary exempted from illness and fatalities;

Because our fields and prairie have, even in the recent years of drouth and shortage, supplied us with sufficient food for the populace at large, so that though cramped in stores none are likely to suffer sorely from lack of food;

Because the universally prevailing times of financial stringency have been lightened and

steadied for us here by the careful supervision of the monied institutions of this city, thus insuring us a commercial life that is on a par with the rest of the land;

Because we are not only privileged to rejoice in our city as a community of good homes, excellent schools, large hospitality and optimistic citizenship, but in that the moral life and stand of our people has measured well up toward those standards set and accredited by the truly great in high national places;

Because of a far-reaching idealism, that, dawning in our national political circles, diplomatic associations great commercial life, is designed to impress strongly and to affect for lasting good the public spirit and life of all citizenship in such small but progressive cities as ours; and,

Because in a time when the treachery and lure of war beckoned us toward conflict with a sister nation to the south, and when mighty nations abroad are convulsed in death struggles, we as a nation and people have and are enjoying the blessings of unbroken homes and peace;

Therefore, I, J. W. Dry, Mayor of the City of Mexico, Mo., do proclaim and set aside Thursday, November 26th, as a day of Thanksgiving for the blessings of God upon us, and respectfully suggest that the clergy and people meet together at a designated time and place for divine praise and worship.

(Signed) J. W. DRY, Mayor.

## THE WOMAN QUESTION

### Brigham Young's 70 Wives—Mormons Ready to Fight U. S.

Editor Message:—Recently you published my letter on Mormonism, but owing to space required I had not spoken of some features which will now be mentioned. Any standard encyclopedia will recite the events connected with this sensational (it can hardly be called a church) religion or something to inspire a feeling of having provided for the exigency of a future state. Euthusiasts that suppose they can show the world something, may, as in the past, easily be found. So far as known, Joseph Smith, born in Vermont, in the year 1805, was the son of a family whose reputation was unsavory and their education short. He says of himself that when 14 years of age he conceived the importance of preparation for a future state, and that after attending all churches he had found nothing but a "clash of religious sentiment." He then went to secret places, spending hours in prayer and meditation with the hope of obtaining "angel visitations," and in this he was not disappointed. The first one occurred Sept. 21, 1823, and the house was filled with a "consuming fire." In a moment a personage stood before him, an angel from God, who informed him of the forgiveness of his sins, that the covenant with ancient Israel was then to be fulfilled. Furthermore, that he, Smith, was the chosen medium in the hand of God, thru whom the event was to be made known unto the world. Further, that certain "tablets," containing directions and instructions would be found buried in the ground near the base of a certain tree, whose location would be revealed. This was con-

sumated and Smith found there the same angel as had appeared before ready to show him, Smith, the key to the inscription on the "tablets."

Smith, as yet, had scarcely any education, but happened to fall in with Sidney Rigdon, a "saddlebag" preacher, ready for any kind of sensation, and he had a good education. So, being somewhat interested, he was a great help to Smith. It seems that Rigdon had seen a "romance," written by one, Spalding, and it has been charged that the Mormon bible was bodily taken from that publication.

It seems that people were easily found who were ready for anything out of the ordinary and hence it was not long until the new revelation had received quite a considerable start and had drawn fire from all the protestant churches. Of course this denomination advertised Mormonism and was in reality only a help to such a scheme.

Brigham Young having joined the new enthusiasts and being almost instantly recognized as a person of great force, was forthwith sent on a missionary campaign and was very successful indeed. The Mormons went to the Valley of Salt Lake about two years prior to the action of Congress, making a territory which is now known as the State of Utah.

Most all persons who visited Salt Lake City in the sixties and even seventies, knew that the hands of the Mormon rulers were bloodstained. There was a band of "destroying angels" who actually had authority to condemn and execute on the spot, any outsider at least, who happened to get into the entanglements of their nets. While I was there an ex-army surgeon (U. S.) named Robinson, but then prac-

ticing in the city, had filed papers in order to find who owned the "hot springs property," one mile north of town. He thought he had a good title deed. One night a man called at the doctor's home and asked him to go with him to an emigrant train and set a broken leg. Robinson had only gone two blocks when he was shot down, while his wife came out of her house screaming, "Just as I expected; I told him not to go."

President Fillmore made a great mistake in appointing Brigham Young to be Governor of the new territory. The president having realized his mistake endeavored to offset the consequences by judicial appointments. However, not one person, so named, after going out to Salt Lake was willing to oppose Young in anything, knowing full well the consequences. Therefore, Cummins was appointed to succeed Young, and 2,500 soldiers were sent out across the plains. But the Mormon soldiers, disguised as Indians and every other thing, way laid the provision or supply train and the soldiers had a desperate time with snow in the mountains. Of course there was no railroad at that time. Brigham Young had sworn no man would be recognized as Governor but himself.

The matter was at last compromised, as follows: U. S. Army to be permitted to establish a military camp within the territory, but not closer to Salt Lake City than 40 miles. What would be thought of such a proposition today? What will be thought of our present toleration of Mormonism, say 50 years hence; as it exists in Utah today? But everyone knows that it is by no means confined to that State. There is a Mormon colony in Iowa (as I am informed), that never advocated polygamy nor practiced it. But even so it is a queer religion in a republic such as ours.

How is this for one of the M. church doctrines? "Abraham was the God of Jesus Christ, the God of Joseph Smith, and Joseph Smith is the God of this generation." This is not all, but amply sufficient to justify the charge that "the human intellect never sank into an estate of moroseness. Then there is the doctrine of "spiritual marriage"—platonically intended, of course, as a refuge for the "great, and near great," who have passed beyond self-control, or in other words, the more possessed the more desired. Brigham Young had at least seventy wives of all grades, and his staff officials never failed to get acquainted with a comely fresh arrival from the missionary fields. In the sixties one could easily imagine the advent of a great slaughter when the "army" went into camp for practice, for Mormons looked for interference by the Government, whose forces would be utterly routed. But not as yet has anyone known of the shedding of (Mormon) blood, although it was taken by them in a clandestine manner, when there were none to interfere or even object. As Senator Cannon has said, something must be done by civil power or legislation. China, Japan and India are no more legitimate missionary fields than are many of the Mormon settlements, and though one would not suppose so, nothing—at least it was so in the past—would please the "hierarchy" quite so well, as an open debate. Thus it would appear that there is no way to meet the issue except by harsh measures, some-

## CARTER-JOHNSON WEDDING

Judge Alex Carter and Mrs. Claudia Johnson were united in marriage at the home of the bride at 11 o'clock last Saturday, Rev. H. E. Truex of St. Louis, who married Miss Irma Johnson of this city, officiating. Only relatives and a few friends witnessed the ceremony. The happy couple left on a Wabash train for a few days' visit to friends in Kansas City. On their return they will reside on Judge Carter's fine farm just north of Mexico, known as the Gov. C. H. Hardin place.

The wedding unites two of Audrain county's very best families. May naught but prosperity and true happiness follow Mr. and Mrs. Carter all their days.

## CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

Perfect God, Perfect Man, Perfect Being, The Basis.

Prof. H. S. Herin, Boston, Mass., addressed at the Mexico Co. Thursday night, he teachings of Christianity. He was introduced by Clarence A. Barr.

There is a Church in Mexico has quite a following. Here are a number of variations made by his talk here.

"Christ Jesus prove existence to be wholly mental. When he walked on the water, stilled the tempest and overcame other material conditions.

"Since these discordant conditions exist solely as a state of human consciousness and their correction or destruction involves a transformation of this consciousness.

"The universe, created and constantly sustained by God, must be like Him, for like produces like, therefore the real universe is not destructible but indestructible, not material but spiritual.

"Perfect God, perfect man, perfect being, is the basis of all Christian Science teaching, analysis and practice. This is the standard by which all human phenomena and experiences in order to determine their true value.

"This spiritual understanding, the perception and apprehension of divine Truth, Christian Science now makes possible to all.

"Disease, sin, death, all disorders are therefore to be classed as errors of moral consciousness, as mesmeric, illusory mental conditions. On this basis they can be corrected with truth, while they are classed as either physical or mental realities. Even according to psychology and philosophy they are but objectified sense impressions."

thing like the liquor question. I have often wondered what is to be a final result of the Mormon question, and it is well worthy of the best thought and resources of this, the greatest of all nations. Comparisons are not in order or at least of no use since faults and failings are universal. Hence it would seem that this Mormon question may easily be the most serious of any by which we are confronted, and have been for so long a time.

T. M. GILL.

Mexico, Mo.